



Coaster Brook Trout Regulations

Why New Brook Trout Regulations at Isle Royale?

Due to incredible popularity and historic over-harvest, coaster brook trout numbers at Isle Royale have been declining for several years. Recent surveys indicate populations are dangerously low and may be at risk of disappearing unless they have more protection.

- ! The Tobin Harbor population of adult brook trout may be less than 150 fish.
- ! The Siskiwit Bay population, despite 5 years of regular stocking, is probably even lower than at Tobin Harbor.

Due to these low numbers, the National Park Service and Michigan Department of Natural Resources are implementing protective regulations at Isle Royale beginning this year (2005) in order to help with the recovery of this once common fish.

Lake Superior Waters (extend 4.5 miles out from the island)
Catch and release only for all brook trout, including all bays and harbors.

Inland Waters

Catch and release only in all streams and Hidden Lake. Artificial lures and barbless hooks only in all streams and Hidden Lake

You can help

by knowing the regulations and how to identify brook trout. The nearly square tail and wormlike pattern on the back and dorsal (top) fin of a brook trout are usually a good way to distinguish it from lake trout and splake. If you're uncertain about the species you catch, return it to the water.



Brook Trout



Splake



Lake Trout

Images from LandBigFish.com